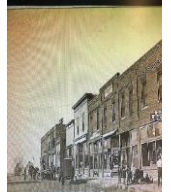


# Ankeny through the decades...

*recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\**

March 2021



## 1950s

### FROM SWAMP LAND TO SUCCESS: THAT'S "THE ANKENY STORY" (Part 2)

Pioneer Residents Recall Earlier Days in Ankeny  
(Second in a multi-part series of excerpts from this article)

"Back in the good old days, there were no good roads to Des Moines," Will Wagner who is among Ankenys oldest residents recalls. "Much of the land was in swamps and lakes, with no bridges. And on wet days it was most impossible to get to Des Moines." The big slough, was said to begin one mile east and one mile south of Ankeny. It was also said the state, at that time had a contract to make the Des Moines River navigable, the river land was not able to be given a clear title, due to the river clogging with eroded soil. So Peter Wagner (Wms father) bought higher land about one mile east.

One of the first means of transportation was the Chicago Northwestern RR, a steam line operated between Des Moines and Ames. This line was first built as a narrow gauge road in 1874. The road was bought by the Chicago and NW Rd. in 1879 and was straightened and widened in its present condition in the following two years. Incidentally Will Wagner remembers seeing the first train that pulled into Des Moines and it was quite an occasion.

The electric line was built in 1907, and Primary road No. 65 was paved with concrete in 1918. Bus service operating between Des Moines and Kansas City, Ames, and Minneapolis is now available to residents. The splendid transportation facilities and the proximity of Ankeny to the State Capital and the leading agricultural College in the World, gives Ankeny the semi-urban character not found in many towns of its size.

*(continued on page 2)*

*\*Wording has been reduced to fit the space in some cases. Additional decades will be covered in future issues. Please become a member of the AAHS or send comments via email at: [history@ankenyhistorical.org](mailto:history@ankenyhistorical.org).*



## Ankeny Area Historical Society

# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

March 2021



(cont. from page 1)

The old timers will also tell you, that once you did make it to Des Moines, the Des Moines River had to be forded in order to get over to the west side of town or pay ten cents toll, which most people couldn't afford to pay in those days. So they forded the river near where the first bridge is now just south of the dam. Fording the river had its complications too because unless the river was very low it couldn't be forded. So it was a risky proposition when coming to "Town" in the old days. Most folks traded at the "Gross" store where they bought calico and other material. There is a sign on the building yet on East 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

Young folks had good times in those days too, along with the hard work of making a living from the land. The Wagner boys (Ed, John, and Will) organized a string band at home, and became so popular with their music, they were invited from place to place to play for party dances. The "Band" consisted of a guitar, fiddle, and mandolin. They would go to parties in a big lumber wagon, sitting on the bottom of the box. We also learned that "Sparkin' was a thing" in those days. A young blade would go out and sit on a bench with a girl, and the other fellow would try to beat his time.

*Due to the length of this article which is full of information about Ankeny's beginnings, further excerpts will be found in the following monthly editions of Ankeny Through the Decades.*

*Ankeny Times, April 18, 1952*

## **ANKENY SCHOOL NEWS** Asi Es La Vida! By Marilyn Grieserrt

This past week has been proclaimed as National Library Week; therefore, most columnists in various newspapers have been campaigning for an increase in the reading in the nation. Since I am not attempting to be an individualist, here goes: Reading is the basis of all education. A person cannot live a normal day without having to read something. Unfortunately, many people are allowing their reading ability to dwindle. This doesn't mean one forgets how to read, but he loses the skill of fast reading. Reading becomes a laborious task. Wake up and Read! *Ankeny Times, March 20, 1958*

## 1950s

### Early "Times" Owner



PHOTO BY THORPE

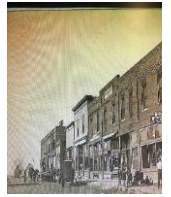
Wm. Wagner will be 88 on July 29th and enjoys reminiscing about the "good old days", when the Town of Ankeny was still in short pants-so-to-speak. Although Mr. Wagner gets around with the aid of a cane, this doesn't hinder him from doing a little gardening now and then, or going over town on warm, bright days for a chat with the "boys". His first-hand accounts of the early town are most interesting, and he recollects the many changes that have taken place during his lifetime. He is proud of being the first owner of the "Times", which he purchased of a Bondurant man for \$600.00. This included a hand press, and other printing equipment. Mr. Wagner was the eldest of a family of seven. He married Mrs. Anna Hutton Cherrie, who was the first graduate nurse in Des Moines. Dr. Martin B. Cherrie, her former husband before his death, was one of Ankeny's first doctors.



# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

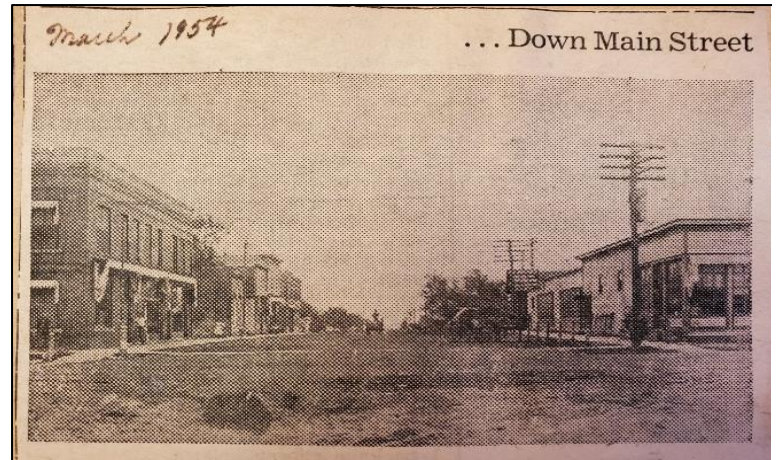
March 2021



## 1950s



**Grand Opening at McCleary Shoe Store, Mar. 6,7,8:** The door to McCleary's Shoe Store opened for business this week, and will hold their official grand opening Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Abel and Lucille McCleary invite the public to stop by and look over their complete line of name brand shoes and hosiery. The store has been completely remodeled and is ready to serve you for footwear for every member of the family. The management has held a fitting demonstration at the store this week with a representative of International Shoes in charge. There will be a free drawing for prizes on March 8. Abel says there will be roses for the ladies, gifts for the kiddies, and free drawing of shoes and hosiery. *Ankeny Times, March 6, 1958*

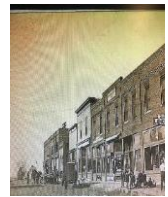


**Remember Ankeny “Way Back When”?** Perhaps this picture taken in 1909 will bring nostalgic recollections of Ankeny before paved streets, power steering, Detergents, and Anti-Enzines.... Can you identify the buggy and horse at the hitching post? - the wagon and horses in the middle of Main Street? Or the two men by the bank and the woman and two children walking down the sidewalk. Please write in to this office if you know their identity and we will publish their names next week – also if you have any old time pictures of Ankeny, send them to the Ankeny Times and have fun guessing who they are – Get out the old family album and send in your picture for this corner you may get a laugh or a tear from these old photographs. *Ankeny Times, March, 1954. Picture was found in the Doris Bunz Scrapbook, 1950-1952, housed at the Ankeny Area Historical Museum*

# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

March 2021



## 1950s

### EASTER SEALS DRIVE OPENS IN ANKENY TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 11

On Tuesday evening volunteer workers will knock on every door in Ankeny on behalf of crippled children. Won't you place your family contribution in an envelope and be ready when your neighbor calls to pick your contribution for Easter Seal Drive? Mrs. Warren Thornton is again serving as local chairman and has been assisted by Mrs. Mark Sprague.

The following are volunteer block workers: Mesdames Jerry Burke, Charles Hurwbad, Alice Hildreth, Irene Wilkens, Margaret Whitely, Joann Holgrem, Dena Randolph, Doris Wheeler, Mildred Hull, Mary Hutton, Martha Voshell, Sandra Parmenter, Art Den Adel, Darlene Puton, A.T. Nielsen, Jean Brabbs, Ann Wicks, Arch McDaniel, Dale Hahn, and Mrs. Alvin Clements.

Easter Seals pave the way to a better life for crippled children and adults. Give! Give Give!  
*Ankeny Times, March 6, 1958*

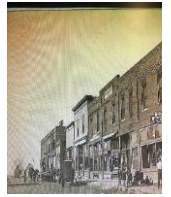




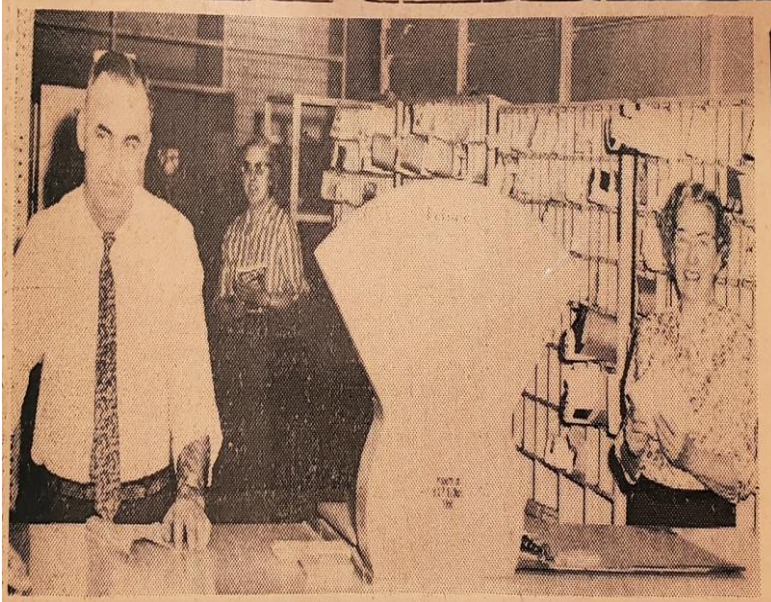
# Ankeny through the decades...

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## 1950s



### NEW POST OFFICE IS A BIG IMPROVEMENT OVER OLD ONE

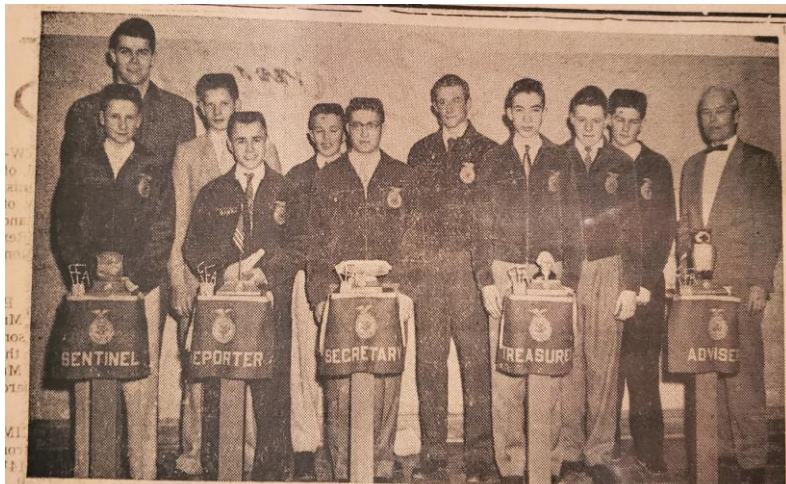
Ankeny Post Office employees are proud of their new enlarged quarters and additional Post office boxes at Ankeny's Post Office. Pictured above; Ankeny Postmaster Willard Nagle, with his two assistants Verna Welton and Mrs. Alma Miller. "The new room is a big improvement," says Nagle. *Ankeny Times, March 20, 1958*

### Program, Awards Highlight

#### F.F.A. Banquet: The F.F.A.

Banquet held Saturday at Parkview Schools was well attended by Parents and friends of F.F.A. boys. The program opened with Bob Harrison giving he invocation. Following the dinner, Norman Haines entertained with a trumpet solo. Another musical number was furnished by a quartet, Norman Haines, Garry Gabel, Marvin Moeckly, and Bill Harrison. Ron Gilbert gave the welcome.

Responses were by Mrs. Brazelton and M.O. Johnson. The Freshman Creed was recited. Mr. L.M. Peterson, F.F.A. boy's advisor presented the awards. The program was ended with the singing of "God Bless America." *Ankeny Times, March 6, 1958*



F. F. A. officers, award winners, and sponsor, are pictured at F. F. A banquet held Saturday evening at the Ankeny School. From left, (front row), Allen Johnson, Sentinel, Joe Harper, reporter, J. Wittenbeck, secretary, LeRoy Cornwell, treasurer and L. M. Peterson advisor. Back row from left: Jerry Howard, Merle Johnson, John McBride, and the guest speaker, Jerry Stockdale. Also Bob Harrison, F. F. A. president, and Ron Gilbert, Vice president.

# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

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## 1950s

Twenty-three local clubs participated in the National 4-H Club week by having window displays. Most of the girls used “Clothing” as their theme. The results of girls’ windows are as follows:

Blue- Busy Beavers, Beaverettes, Ankeny

Red- Highlanders, Clover Valley, Tip Tops, Beaver Valley Girls

White- Dew Drops, Walnut Whizzers, Bondurant Merry Makers, Deerfoot Dears, Rockettes, Johnston Busy Bees, and the Clever Cloverettes”

The boys used “Prevention of Marketing Losses” as their theme. The results of the boys’ club winners are as follows:

Blue -Elkhart, Washington, Ankeny

Red- Alleman, Union Hawks, Beaver Hustlers

White- Beaver Valley, Greenwood Enterprisers, and the Runnells Livewires

*Ankeny Times, March 6, 1958*



## 1970s

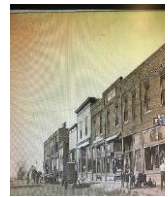
**“Greener Ankeny” gains momentum** – the city wide tree planting project sponsored by the Ankeny Jaycees, is gaining support throughout our city. Eight separate neighborhoods in Ankeny are presently organizing the street tree planting for their block. The Jaycees are conducting this project on a nonprofit basis to further beautify our city. This planting is for street parkings anywhere in the city. On the newer streets it is suggested that two trees be planted per lot. On streets where trees have already been planted in the front yard it is suggested that one tree be planted in the parking. Persons interested in conducting residents of their block in regard to this planting are urged to attend an organizational meeting a Neveln Jr. High at 7 p.m., March 25, or at the Shelter House at 9 a.m., March 27. *Ankeny Press Citizen – March 25, 1971*



# Ankeny through the decades...

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## 1970s



**Outstanding community service awards given to six** – at the annual chamber of commerce awards banquet. From l-r – Dale Frisk, volunteer Ankeny Fire Department; Ed Thayer, outstanding teenager; Don Haines, state president of the Iowa Jaycees; Marion Kochheiser, president of the Ankeny Garden Club, and Milton Aunan, president of the elementary PTA. Carmen Zimmer, a member of the chamber's board of directors and active in civic affairs was also awarded an outstanding citizen award. . *Ankeny Press Citizen* – March 18, 1971



**Scott Justice, Class AAA's 185 pound champ** – gazes over the crowd after winning his 29<sup>th</sup> match marred by only one tie this season. *Ankeny Press Citizen* – March 2, 1972

**Dale Miller Ford opens in Ankeny** – Dale Miller has taken over the Ankeny Ford dealership it was officially announced this week. The move came after a short ownership by Jack Kaldem who was previously a Buick dealer in Des Moines. Miller, a native Missourian and more recently of Spencer and Des Moines, is married and he and his wife have two sons. A sales manager for Beatrice Foods for 24 years, Miller is also a Methodist, Mason, Shriner, and veteran of the Korean War. "We want our Ford dealership to grow with the community", stated Miller. "We are very glad to be here." Also with Miller are several employees of the previous management and several new faces. *Ankeny Press Citizen* – March 2, 1972

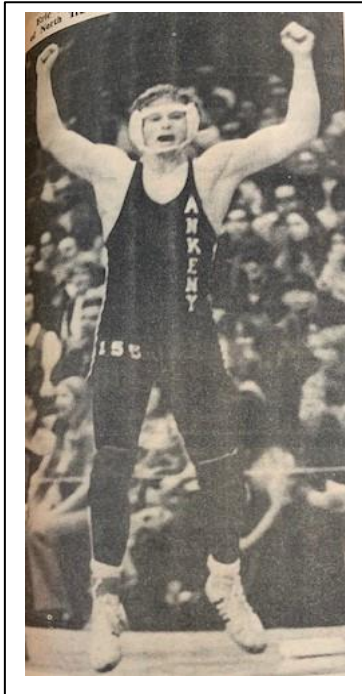
# Ankeny through the decades...

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## 1970s



**Ankeny's two-time state champ** – Eric Norris leaps triumphantly after a second period pin in the finals of the Class AA State Wrestling Tourney. Norris ended his varsity career with his second state crown. *Ankeny Press Citizen* – March 4, 1971



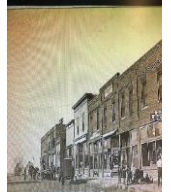
**Hawks crowned state AA mat Kings; Norris repeats** – Ankeny had 6 wrestlers finish in the top four class AA spots. Picture l-r, Eric Norris 155 lb. 1<sup>st</sup> place, Randy Sanger 138 lb. 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Charlie Wheatly 112 lb 4<sup>th</sup> place, Kory Krebs HWT 4<sup>th</sup> place, Brad Johnson 134 lb 4<sup>th</sup> place, and Mike Norris 132 lb 2<sup>nd</sup> place. In the center of this fine group of wrestlers, behind the trophy is Coach Bob Sharp. *Ankeny Press Citizen* – March 4, 1971



# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

March 2021



## 1970s



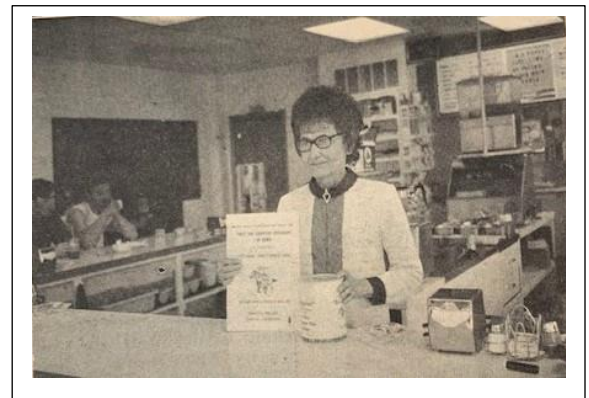
**New in Ankeny, formerly Elwell's -**  
*Ankeny Press Citizen – March 30, 1972*



### **Grand Opening – Leaning Tower Pizza**

Several Ankeny Chamber of Commerce members were present to welcome the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beebe to Ankeny. L-R is Arlo Miller, Collette Beebe, Charles Beebe, Ken Christenson, and Mayor Eldon Leonard, Bebee's son operates the Tower on Sixth Ave. in Des Moines. *Ankeny Press Citizen – March 2, 1972*

**Pony Express Auction plans take shape** – Plans for the Pony Express Auction to be held 12 o'clock noon on April 1 are rapidly shape as merchants in Ankeny do their part to make the auction the same type of success it was last year. Governor Robert Ray will be present on April 1 at Traders Lounge to join the Pony Express riders for the horseback ride to Camp Sunnyside on the last leg of the journey with collected funds. Prior to the April 1 events the eating places in Ankeny will sponsor coffee days in which they will donate the coffee money taken in on those days. Below Mrs. Harold Swartfager, who with her husband owns Harold's Maidrite, is shown displaying one of the cans for Coffee Days to be observed by Ankeny eating places. Customers will make donations to the Pony Express Ride for Crippled children for the coffee they drink on those days. *Ankeny Press Citizen – March 23, 1972*



# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

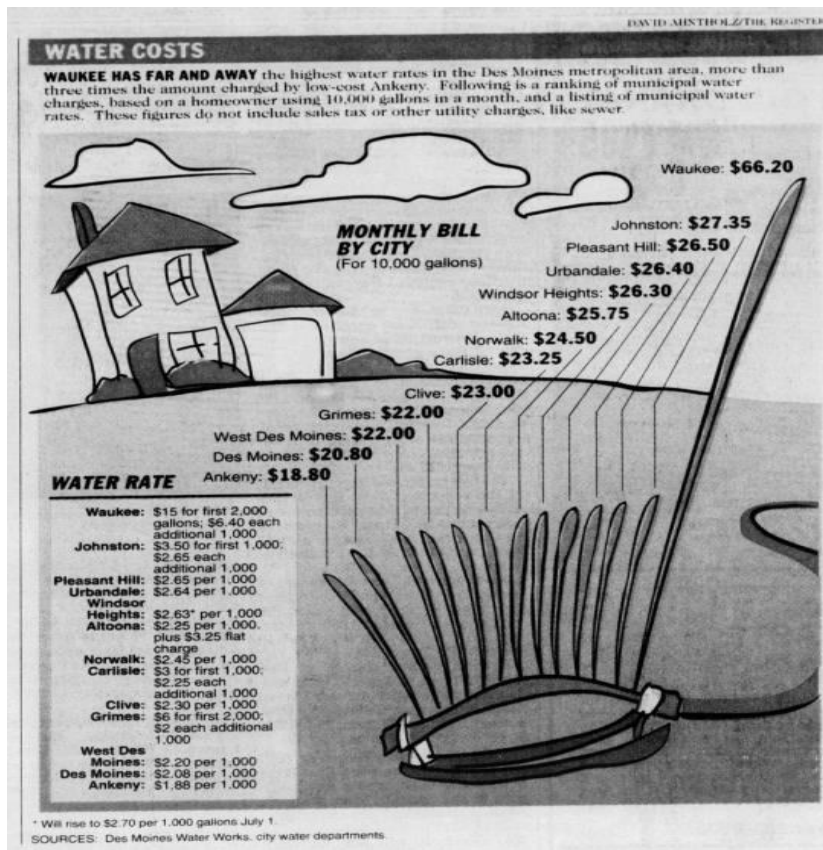
March 2021



## 1990s

**Benefit concert.** The Metropolitan Brass Quintet will perform a concert benefitting the Ankeny Peacemaking Scholarship Fund at 3 p.m. Sunday at Ankeny Presbyterian Church at 317 S.E. Trilein St. A free will offering will be collected. The fund will award a scholarship to an Ankeny High School senior who plans to pursue a career in a field related to peace, social justice or the environment. *DM Register, March 23, 1994*

**43 houses surrounded by Ankeny. An annexation vote leaves houses on Northwest 16<sup>th</sup> Street outside the city limits.** The Ankeny City Council decided last week to add about 371 acres to the southwest corner of the city, but it left 43 houses on a street that divides that area outside the city limits. The result is that Northwest 16<sup>th</sup> Street still is an unincorporated area, but the land behind the houses on both sides of about a one-half-mile stretch of the street will be inside the city limits. Developers have plans for more than 700 single-family homes on that land. "We're going to be one little strip here that's going to be in Polk County," said Peggy Earl (who lives on N.W. 16<sup>th</sup> St). The city has a policy of not annexing land unless requested to do so by the property owners. It was determined that most of the 43 homeowners on that section of Northwest 16<sup>th</sup> Street were opposed to annexation, so their property was not added to the city. The state forbids cities from creating unincorporated "islands" surrounded by the city, so the city also annexed land in the area owned by Warren Transport on 78<sup>th</sup> Ave. and by Northern National Gas at the intersection of Northwest 16<sup>th</sup> Street and Northwest 78<sup>th</sup> Avenue. *DM Register, March 2, 1994*



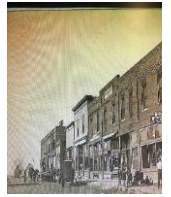
(Ankeny's lower water rates!) *DM Register, March 9, 1994*



# Ankeny through the decades...

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## 1990s

**Ankeny, schools begin projects.** The first steps are taken in an expansion that will allow the city and school district to share some facilities. There is a long way to go, but city and school officials in Ankeny have taken the first steps in a major program designed to build, expand and improve various facilities. Ben Norman, the superintendent of schools, said he hopes the district will be able to take bids on construction of a new school for eighth and ninth grades by May and that ground can be broken in June. The school, the centerpiece of a \$10.5 million bond issue approved by voters in November, is scheduled to open for the 1995-96 academic year. The city plans to eventually locate City Hall in a building now occupied by Kirkendall Public Library. But that can't be done until a library is constructed on 160 acres of land the city will acquire in the northwestern part of town. In the meantime, the city administration plans to move into a new building at 1605 North Ankeny Blvd. so the present City Hall at 211 S.W. Walnut St. can be converted into an expanded police headquarters. **Ankeny city and schools take first expansion steps.** The council approved an agreement to pay the Des Moines architect firm of DG Bussard Dikis Inc. \$76,000 for design work in converting the present City Hall into a police headquarters facility. The original proposal called for a fee of \$88,330, but that included design for a 2,000-square-foot expansion to the building. Some City Council members said the Police Department could get along without that expansion, and the council did not authorize payment of design fees for it. That upset members of the Ankeny Police Benevolent Association, who said voters approved that expansion when they supported a \$7.5 million municipal bond issue in November. **Objects to Fee.** The council also objected to paying the architect a \$12,500 for a study of a possible 20,000-square-foot addition to the new library, before the library is ever built. But it tentatively approved the agreement while awaiting more details about that portion of the plan. Annette Vance, the only council member who supported the expansion of the police station, also was the only one who expressed support for a study of possible extra space for the new library. "I again feel planning for the long run will save money," Vance said. Gerald Fehn and Rick Hermann both said they were opposed to that payment. "At this point in time, I don't feel that study is necessary," Fehn said. The council also has approved an agreement with Crose-Gardner Associates of Des Moines for design work on Hawkeye Park and a proposed North Park, which would be located on the land where the new school, library and aquatic center are to be constructed. Hawkeye Park is the site of the municipal swimming pool, a facility that will be closed when the new aquatic center is completed. *DM Register, March 23, 1994*

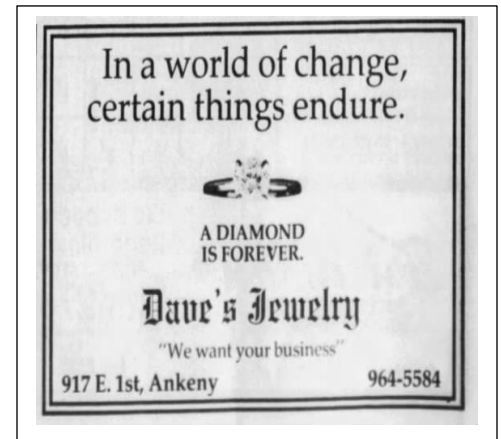
# Ankeny through the decades...

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## 1990s



*DM Register, March 23 1994*

*DM Register, March 31, 1999*



*DM Register, March 31, 1999*

### City plans temporary ban on new cell phone towers.

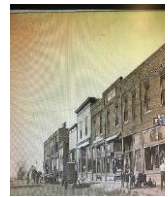
After losing a court battle over the placement of a cellular phone tower, Ankeny plans a temporary ban on all new such towers until the city can pass an ordinance with specific rules on where towers can be located. City Manager Carl Metzger said he will recommend a 90-day moratorium on communication towers, which would give the Ankeny City Council time to pass a new ordinance. Metzger said the goal is to give the city's zoning boards specific criteria to consider on the placement of towers, which are being built for cellular and digital phone customers. Metzger insisted that the ordinance is not being crafted to ban cell towers in the city limits. "I don't think the purpose of the ordinance is to allow us a vehicle to turn everybody down. But we need to be able to defend ourselves in the event we do turn one down," Metzger said. *DM Register, March 31, 1999*



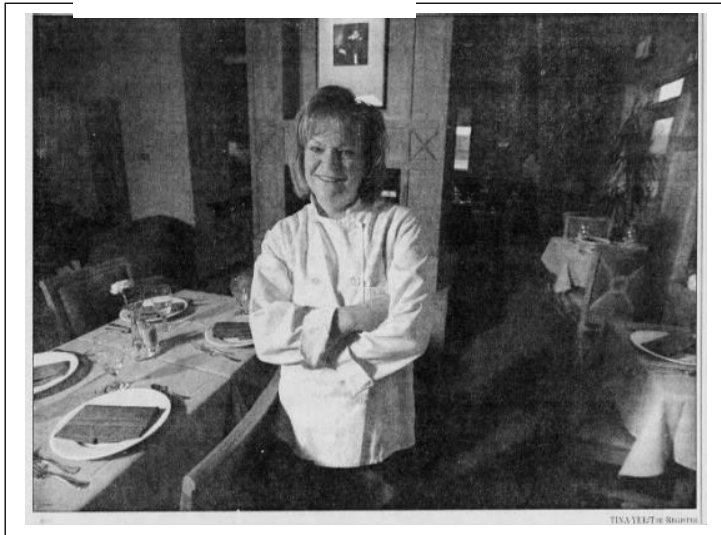
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## 1990s



**Derbies owner achieves her dream.** Desi Rice's eatery, which opened in October in Uptown Ankeny, is already drawing regular customers. Desi Rice opened her dream, a local restaurant and lounge called Derby's, 417 SW Third St., at the end of October, and she's amazed at how many regular customers she has already. "It has just been great. Some customers are coming two and three times a week," she said. Formerly the manager at the Ankeny Country Club, Rice, 42, is a self-taught cook and manager who takes pride in creating interesting foods. At lunch, for example, she offers dishes such as Southwestern Chicken Salad, Mediterranean Beef Salad and Canadian BLTs, using Canadian instead of regular bacon. Lunch entrees run from \$5.95 to \$8.95. The owner explains that the name Derby's is a combination of her first name, Desi, and her brother Herb Young's name. He designed the shop, which can seat 64 in the restaurant and 20 in the bar. *DM Register, March 31, 1999*

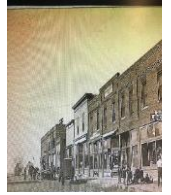
**Band-O-Rama packs the hall.** An annual event called Band-O-Rama brings together Ankeny concert band students from grades five to 12 for a performance to show off the district's instrumental music program. Last week's performance included 1,300 students and a standing-room-only crowd at the high school gymnasium. Ankeny High School band director Paul Brizzi, who has taught in Ankeny for 16 years, started Band-O-Rama in his second year with the school. The all-school band night appeals to students in a variety of grades, from the fifth-graders who like to hear the older students' music to high school juniors and seniors who enjoy performing in front of the concert band's largest crowd of the year. "It's a showcase for our total band program," Brizzi said. *DM Register, March 24, 1999*



# Ankeny through the decades...

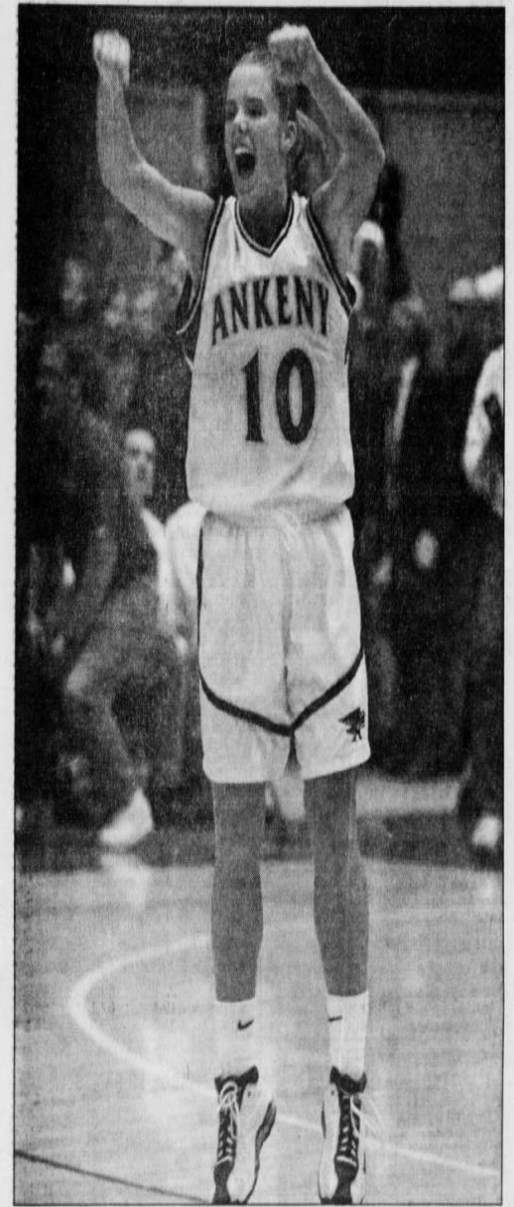
recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

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## 1990s

**Junod leaving Ankeny with another state title.** Ankeny's Erica Junod paused to kiss the court at Veterans Memorial Auditorium Friday after her team won the Class 4-A state girls' basketball title. Fitting, since it had been good to her. Junod ended her career with two state titles. Ankeny beat Waterloo West, 42-37, for a record fifth crown; it also won two years ago, when Junod was named captain of the all-tournament team. Her reputation was that of a clutch player, someone who wanted the pressure of a close game. "Unreal," Ankeny Coach Scott DeJong said. "She wanted the ball. She's just an unbelievable player." An all-state guard, Junod has signed with Iowa State. The Hawkettes had four senior starters – Junod, Bryony Jones, center Sarah Gilbert and forward Katie Egli. Sophomore Teresa Clawson filled the other forward spot. Ankeny will have to make more room in its trophy case. The school also won titles in 1978, 1980, 1989, and 1997. "Anytime at Ankeny, you've got to play with pride," Jones said. *DM Register, March 14, 1999*



BILL NEIBERGALL/THE REGISTER  
Erica Junod celebrates after Ankeny claimed the Class 4-A title.



# Ankeny through the decades...

recalling Ankeny news from the 1950s, 1970s, 1990s\*

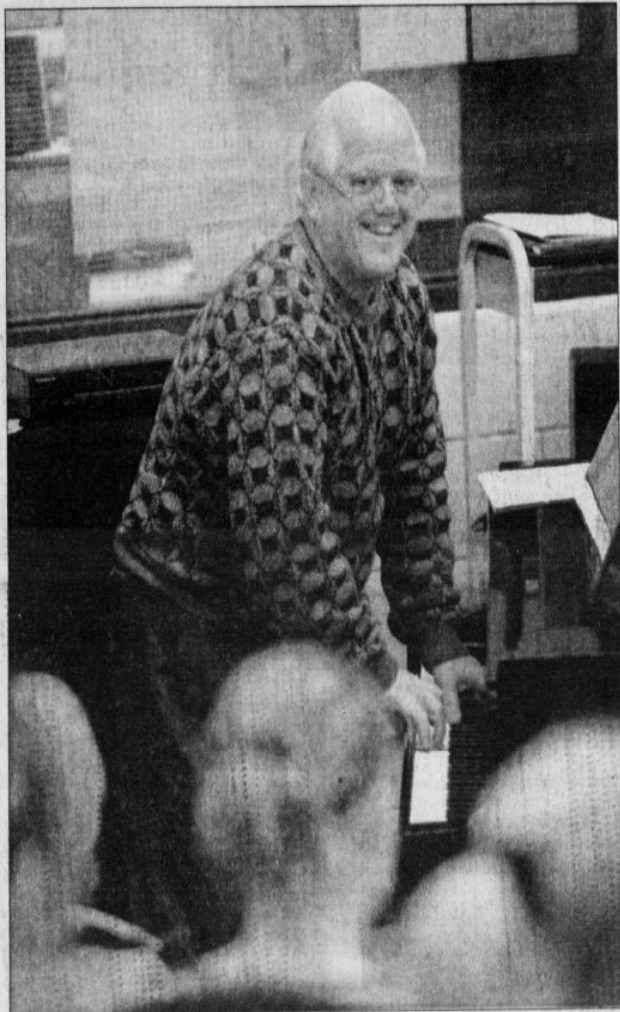
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## 1990s

**Ankeny choir to sign at Carnegie Hall. The appearance in May will be the fourth at the famed concert hall for the high school group.** Start spreading the news. Ankeny High Schools' Concert choir will perform at Carnegie Hall in New York this spring. Sending a choir to the prestigious Big Apple address is no longer a novelty for choir director Steve Carstenson. The May 29 performance will be the fourth time the Ankeny choir will have performed at Carnegie Hall, including a trip in 1997. But this will be the first time Carstenson will conduct the 125 member choir. Previously it was led by guest conductors. "It's kind of scary. But it's exciting," Carstenson said of his conducting opportunity. "Carnegie Hall – that's got a reputation that goes with it and that's just huge for the kids and for our program. It's a tremendous shot in the arm and quite an honor."

*DM Register, March 10, 1999*



BOB MOHR/SOHN/REGISTER PHOTO

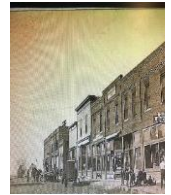


**Above and left, Steve Carstenson, director of the Ankeny High School choir, leads the group during a rehearsal. The choir will make its fourth appearance at New York's Carnegie Hall this spring.**

# Ankeny through the decades...

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## 1990s

*(Lots of activity in central Iowa) DM Register, March 27, 1996*

A bulletin board for local governments, civic organizations, support groups and social clubs.

### ANKENY

**Spaghetti Supper**, 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Faith United Methodist Church, 7384 N.W. 16th St., Crocker Township, south of Ankeny. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. All you can eat.

**Elks Lodge Dance**, 8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, 1932 S.W. Third St. Dance to Woody's Garage. Cover charge \$2.50. Public welcome.

**Spring Craft Fair**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, East Elementary School gym, 710 S.E. Third St.

**Easter Musical "Glory to Glory"**, 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services Sunday, First United Methodist Church, 206 S.W. Walnut St.

**Blue Birds**, 6:30 p.m. today, First United Methodist Church, 206 S.W. Walnut St.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences**, grades 10-12, 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, High School, 1320 N. Ankeny Blvd.

**Kiwanis**, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Ankeny Golf and Country Club, 9628 N.W. 16th St.

**LaLeche League**, 7 p.m. Thursday, Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church, 501 E. First St.

**Boy Scouts 88**, 7 p.m. Monday, Legion Hall, 521 S.W. Third St.

**Izaak Walton League**, 6:30 p.m. Monday, 1860 N.E. 110th Ave.

**Knights of Columbus**, 6:30 p.m. Monday, Our Lady's Immaculate Heart

Hawkeye Park. For children ages 1 to 8. Call 263-1811 for information.

### MADRID

**Spring Bake Sale**, 12:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Madrid Home for the Aging, Peterson Lobby. Bring baked donations to the lobby from 11 a.m. to noon Sunday.

### CITYWIDE

**Gamblers Anonymous**: 7:30 p.m. today, Cottage Grove United Presbyterian Church, 24th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue.

**Church Women United in the Des Moines Area**: 5:30 p.m. Monday, Simpson United Methodist Church, East 26th and Capitol Avenue, call 285-3137 to register.

**Young Energetic Widowed Singles**: Lunch at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Des Moines Art Center, 46th and Grand Avenue. Call Carolyn Palmer at 276-3500 by today.

**Des Moines Area Retired Teachers Association**: 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Best Western Starlite Village, 929 Third St. Workshop, luncheon, program. Call 243-2640 for reservations.

**Multiple Sclerosis self-help group**: The "Young at Heart Gang" will meet from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday at Younkers Rehabilitation Center meeting room, Iowa Methodist Medical Center, 1200 Woodland Ave. Call Colleen Boudewyns at 251-5990 or the MS office at 270-6337.

**Craft and plant sale**: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Staves United Methodist Church, 2743 E. Madison Ave. Call 263-

Thanks to all of you – our Ankeny Area Historical Society members who have supported the museum and its activities over the years. The museum has been closed during the pandemic, but we continue to create Ankeny Through the Decades each month, publish the quarterly newsletter, post on Facebook, and keep the website up to date, so we can stay in contact with you. We hope, after all this passes, you will come visit the museum again! We plan to have new displays – including the Ankeny Championships display – ready for you! Until then, stay safe ... and keep in touch!